

# SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress  
1st Session

Vote No. 350

August 2, 1995, 12:22 p.m.  
Page S-11153 Temp. Record

## DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION/Front-Line ABM Defense

**SUBJECT:** National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1996 . . . S. 1026. Nunn modified perfecting amendment No. 2078 to the Kyl/Inhofe amendment No. 2077.

### ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 98-1

**SYNOPSIS:** As reported, S. 1026, the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1996, will authorize \$264.7 billion in total budget authority for the Department of Defense, national security programs of the Department of Energy, civil defense, and military construction accounts. This amount is \$7 billion more than requested (\$5.3 billion more in procurement and \$1.7 billion more for research and development), and is \$2.6 billion less than the amount approved in the House-passed bill.

The Kyl/Inhofe amendment would express the sense of the Senate "that all Americans should be protected from accidental, intentional, or limited ballistic missile attack." The amendment is based on 12 findings, including:

- 5 nations have declared they have nuclear weapons and at least 20 other nations either unofficially have weapons of mass destruction and the means of delivering them or are attempting to gain those weapons and delivery systems;
- North Korea has a ballistic missile which can reach Alaska, Hawaii, and Guam;
- Several countries recognize that weapons of mass destruction and missiles increase their ability to deter, coerce, or otherwise threaten the United States;
- the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and similar treaties are not sufficient to stop the spread of weapons of mass destruction; and
- the end of the Cold War has changed the strategic environment between the United States and Russia.

**The Nunn modified perfecting amendment** to the Kyl amendment would add that it is also the sense of the Senate "that front-line troops of the United States armed forces should be protected from missile attacks." Further, the amendment would authorize \$35 million of the \$3.403 billion authorized for missile defenses to be used for the Marine Corps' SAM/MEAD front-line theater missile defense program. A portion of that \$35 million would be used for a study to determine whether a Theater Missile Defense system derived from Patriot missile defense technologies could fulfill the SAM/MEADS requirements at a lower estimated lifecycle

(See other side)

YEAS (98)				NAYS (1)		NOT VOTING (1)	
Republican (52 or 98%)		Democrats (46 or 100%)		Republicans (1 or 2%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (1)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Inhofe	Akaka	Inouye	Brown		DeWine- <sup>2</sup>	
Ashcroft	Jeffords	Baucus	Johnston				
Bennett	Kassebaum	Biden	Kennedy				
Bond	Kempthorne	Bingaman	Kerrey				
Burns	Kyl	Boxer	Kerry				
Campbell	Lott	Bradley	Kohl				
Chafee	Lugar	Breaux	Lautenberg				
Coats	Mack	Bryan	Leahy				
Cochran	McCain	Bumpers	Levin				
Cohen	McConnell	Byrd	Lieberman				
Coverdell	Murkowski	Conrad	Mikulski				
Craig	Nickles	Daschle	Moseley-Braun				
D'Amato	Packwood	Dodd	Moynihan				
Dole	Pressler	Dorgan	Murray				
Domenici	Roth	Exon	Nunn				
Faircloth	Santorum	Feingold	Pell				
Frist	Shelby	Feinstein	Pryor				
Gorton	Simpson	Ford	Reid				
Gramm	Smith	Glenn	Robb				
Grams	Snowe	Graham	Rockefeller				
Grassley	Specter	Harkin	Sarbanes				
Gregg	Stevens	Heflin	Simon				
Hatch	Thomas	Hollings	Wellstone				
Hatfield	Thompson						
Helms	Thurmond						
Hutchison	Warner						

#### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

#### SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

cost than the estimated cost for the U.S. portion of the SAM/MEADS program (European allies have committed to paying half the costs of the SAM/MEADS program). The Secretary of Defense would submit a report on this study no later than March 1, 1996. No more than \$10 million of the \$35 million authorized could be spent before the submission of the report.

**Those favoring** the amendment contended:

The Nunn amendment would restore funding for the Corps SAM front-line theater missile defense program, which is also known as the MEADS program. This program is a cooperative program that is supported by the governments of Germany, France, and Italy. These governments have promised to pay approximately 50 percent of the costs, which eventually will total \$10 billion. We recognize that this program is expensive, but so are the four theater missile defense programs which are authorized in this bill. We have no problem with those four systems, except that they provide redundant coverage for rear and middle areas of a battlefield, but they provide no protection for frontline troops. Currently the only system under development that is designed specifically for frontline protection is the SAM/MEADS program. Further, the only existing protection for our forward troops are Hawk batteries, which are used against aircraft, cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles. The technology used in these batteries is dated, and not very effective against missiles. Some Senators have suggested that the Patriot PAC-3 technologies could be used to make a mobile missile defense system for frontline theater defense that would be as effective and cheaper than building the SAM/MEADS system. However, this bill does not provide any funding to make the PAC-3 mobile. Accordingly, this amendment would provide for a feasibility study. If it turns out that it is a better idea to develop a defense based on the PAC-3, we will join our colleagues in advocating that development. Our main interest in offering this amendment is not to favor one system over another, but to make certain that we provide the best possible protection to our troops in battle. The theater missile defense plan outlined in this bill has a glaring defect--protection will only be provided to the middle and rear echelons. The Nunn amendment would correct that defect, and therefore merits our support.

**While favoring the amendment,** some Senators expressed the following reservations:

The Corps SAM system has been plagued by problems. If its funding is continued, Senators should be aware that it will cost an estimated \$10 billion to develop. We are aware that the Europeans have expressed an interest in paying half the development costs, but we do not have a binding commitment in hand. Additionally, Senators should know that advances in the Patriot missile defense system may make it capable of performing the theater missile defense functions that would be performed by the SAM system. Basically, we are willing to move forward cautiously. As this amendment has been modified, the first use of this money will be to conduct a study to see if we should develop Patriot technologies further instead of developing the SAM system. This approach is acceptable, so we will vote in favor of this amendment.

**No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.**